

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A foam dispensing article is described comprising:
  - a reservoir for receiving a liquid product, the reservoir having a closed and an open end;
  - 5 an operating unit for dispensing the foam as an air-liquid mixture at least partially positioned over the reservoir and the open end, the unit comprising:
    - an air pump comprising an air piston slidable movable within an air cylinder;
    - a liquid pump concentrically surrounded at least partially by the air pump
    - 10 comprising a liquid cylinder and a piston slidably movable within the liquid cylinder,;
    - an operating component positioned at least partially above the liquid and air pumps, the component comprising a foam forming screen device, a product outflow channel downstream and receiving foamed liquid from the screen device, the operating component by hand pressure being downwardly movable toward the reservoir thereby
    - 15 forcing the pistons to pump air and liquid product through the screen device;
    - a spring system functioning to return both air and liquid pump pistons upward to an unactivated position, the system comprising an inner spring positioned internally concentric to the air piston; and
    - wherein the improvement is characterized in the spring device having a
    - 20 return force of greater than 4 pounds (17.8 N).
2. The article according to claim 1 wherein the return force ranges from 4 to 7.5 lbs. (20.0 N to 33.4 N).
3. The article according to claim 1 wherein the spring system further comprises an
- 25 outer spring within the air cylinder.

4. The article according to claim 3 wherein the inner spring is at least partially positioned nearer the closed end of the reservoir than is the outer spring.
- 5 5. The article according to claim 3 wherein the outer spring is conically tapered.
6. The article according to claim 5 wherein the outer spring has a wider diameter at an end distant from the operating component.
- 10 7. The article according to claim 1 further comprising a lubricant adjacent the air piston to assist movement against a wall of the air cylinder.
8. The article according to claim 7 wherein the lubricant is a silicone oil or a hydrocarbon oil.
- 15 9. The article according to claim 1 further comprising a ball valve at the inlet of the liquid pump.
10. The article according to claim 7 further comprising a surfactant held within the reservoir, the surfactant being present in a sufficient amount to at least partially dissolve the lubricant during repeated activation of the operating unit.
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